

ESC*News*

Lynn Holmes Is Sworn-In As
The ESC's New Chairman



VOLUME 72, No. 2 MAR/APR 2010 RALEIGH, N.C.

'READ ACROSS AMERICA';
VETERANS STAND DOWN IN RALEIGH;
AND MORE.

GOV. PERDUE APPOINTS HOLMES AS NEW ESC CHAIRMAN

Lynn Holmes is the new chairman of the N.C. Employment Security Commission, having been appointed by Gov. Beverly Eaves Perdue on February 19. She is the agency's seventeenth chairman, succeeding Moses Carey Jr.

Chairman Holmes was officially sworn-in on March 1 in the Old House Chamber at the State Capitol.

"I'm honored to be named the new chairman of the Employment Security Commission," said Chairman Holmes. "This agency continues to face many challenges during a difficult economy. I look forward to the opportunities my new position brings to help assist the thousands of customers and citizens who use our services every day."

Chairman Holmes is the former assistant vice-president of ethics and compliance at BellSouth Corporation (now AT&T), where her over 20 year career included executive roles in the legislative and regulatory areas in Washington D.C., Raleigh and Atlanta. Before joining



Chairman Holmes addresses the Chamber after being sworn-in.



Chairman Holmes signs her official documents with N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Sarah Parker.

the United States Senate. Prior to accepting the ESC chairmanship, Holmes was the principal in Ross Holmes Group, LLC, a consulting practice focused on ethics, compliance and governmental relations and policy.

She is a native of Memphis and graduated from Mount Holyoke College and from the Georgetown University Law Center. Additionally, she completed the Advanced Management Program at the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University.

CAREY APPOINTED SECRETARY OF ADMINISTRATION

Just a little over one year after being named chairman of the Employment Security Commission, Moses Carey was appointed by Gov. Bev Perdue as the new Secretary of Administration. Carey was sworn-in along with new ESC Chairman Lynn Holmes on March 1.

"I want to take a moment to thank all of you who have made my time at the ESC an enjoyable one," said Secretary Carey. "I've been impressed with all of the hard work from everyone during one of the most difficult economic times in the state's history. Your efforts to assist the agency's customers during this time are to be com-

mended. This effort did not go unnoticed and was properly rewarded with the 2009 Governor's Award for Excellence. Everyone should be proud of this achievement, as no other state agency has been recognized for this award.

"I would also like to congratulate Lynn Holmes on her appointment as chairman of the ESC. I wish her the best of luck as she begins her new position at the agency and working with over 2,000 dedicated employees."



Chairman Holmes, along with her husband, Louie Ross, greet Secretary Carey and his wife Peggy Richmond.

ESC PARTICIPATES IN 'READ ACROSS AMERICA'

Chairman Holmes and Deputy Chairman Clegg Read Dr. Seuss To Elementary Students

On Tuesday March 2, ESC Chairman Lynn Holmes read Dr. Seuss's "ABC" to a kindergarten class at Eastway Elementary School in Durham.

"Read Across America" is an annual program of the National Education Association that coincides with the birthday of Dr. Seuss, one of America's best-loved authors of children's books. The NEA calls for every child — from pre-school to high school — to be reading in the company of a caring adult.

"It was a pleasure to take time and read to the kindergarten students at Eastway Elementary," said Chairman Holmes.

"This is a wonderful program supported by Gov. Bev Perdue and I was happy to participate. I enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with the principal, students and staff of the school."

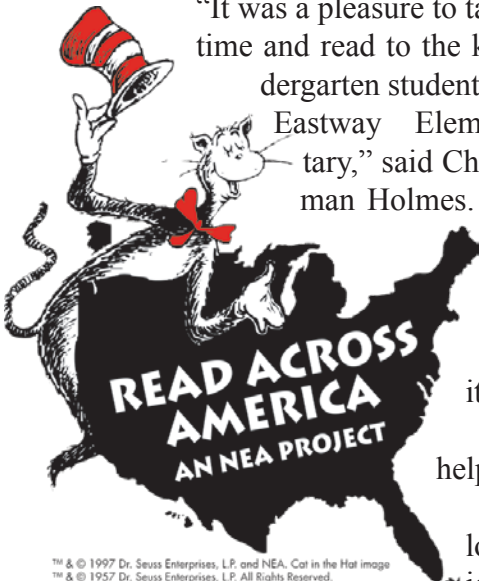
Also taking part in the event was ESC Deputy Chairman & Chief Operating Officer David Clegg. On March 5, Deputy Chairman Clegg visited River Dell Elementary School in Clayton.

Reading Dr. Seuss's "The Lorax," Deputy Chairman Clegg enlisted the help of a couple of the children to help get them fully involved in the event.

"Ask them if any of them have a job," he said. "A lot of times they will look at you perplexed. Then, I will tell them, 'Yes you do have a job. Your job today is to be a student and you need to work every single day just like your parents do and be the very best you can.'"



Chairman Holmes reads a Dr. Seuss Book to a kindergarten class.



™ & © 1997 Dr. Seuss Enterprises, L.P. and NEA. Cat in the Hat image
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Deputy Chairman Clegg is assisted by one of the students.

New Chairman Stays Busy During First Two Months

Office visits, a meet-and-greet, roundtable discussions with Gov. Bev Perdue, and, her first Commission meeting are just a few of the notations on Chairman Holmes's day planner during her first sixty days at the ESC.



(Left photo) Left to right: Raleigh office manager Leon Perry talks to Chairman Lynn Holmes and Regional Manager Wayne Beverly. (Right photo) Chairman Holmes talks with Durham office Manager Chip Wood.



(Left photo) Left to right: Department of Commerce Secretary J. Keith Crisco, Chairman Holmes, Gov. Bev Perdue and Department of Revenue Secretary Kenneth Lay attend the Power Breakfast Series in Wilmington. (Right photo) Chairman Holmes talks with Wilmington Mayor Bill Saffo.



(Left photo) Chairman Holmes greets ESC Attorney Sharon Johnston as ESC Deputy Chairman & Chief Operating Officer David Clegg looks on. (Right photo) Chairman Holmes greets Buck Lattimore.



Around The

Jacksonville Veteran Unit Recognized By IAWP

For the second year in a row, the Jacksonville office veteran unit has been recognized for the "Group-Service to Veterans" award for innovative approach and partnerships within the community to serve veterans. The honor was given by the N.C. chapter of the International Association of Workforce Professionals (NCAWP).

In addition, Kelley Hamilton, Disabled Veteran Outreach Specialist (DVOS) with the Jacksonville veteran unit was recognized by the NCAWP with the "Individual-Services to Veterans" award for her devotion to serving veterans with barriers to employment. Continuing a month of recognition in Jacksonville, Hamilton was also recognized by the American Legion of N.C. for her services as a DVOS. Former Local Veteran Employment Representative (LVER) James Harris, now the Reemployment Services program coordinator in New Bern, was recognized for his work while a member of the Jacksonville veteran unit.



DVOS Kelly Hamilton with LVER Gerry Cruz at a Jacksonville job fair.



A local employer (left) stands with LVER Reginald Roy at a Swansboro job fair.

The Jacksonville unit has worked with the Onslow County Library for over three years, but when Gov. Bev Perdue called on the libraries of North Carolina to develop a job service, the impetus for partnership changed. The library and local veteran unit have formalized a partnership through the remainder of this program year (June 2010).

The partnership has grown and the veteran unit was asked to help the library conduct a job fair during "National Library Week" in April. The veteran unit took a new approach to the job fair idea. The unit developed smaller "community job fairs" that would promote local businesses in the outlying areas of the county hiring local residents within their respective towns. So, the veteran unit conducted three job fairs over three days from one end of the county to the other. Staff

provided services to over 100 persons with local employers in Swansboro, Richlands, Sneads Ferry and Jacksonville.

Twenty-three employers participated in the job fair, and all were very pleased with the overall turnout and support offered by the staff. At the conclusion of the job fair, all employers were asking about next year's efforts. This demonstrates that partnerships between the libraries and employment services provide a wider range and more accessible service to the employers and citizens of the community.



Gail Horn handles the booth at the job fair in Richlands.

Around The
FSC



2010 Capital Area Veterans Stand Down A Success

The Raleigh Office of the U.S. Department of Labor - VETS assisted this year's Stand Down by providing a grant to help insure the military veterans can continue to receive the support this function provides. The event took place at the South Wilmington Street Center in Raleigh.

"Each year, the participation by veterans and service providers has increased," said REALifelines Regional Coordinator Kenneth Kempf. "The event has gained more community support and more satisfaction from the veterans themselves each year."

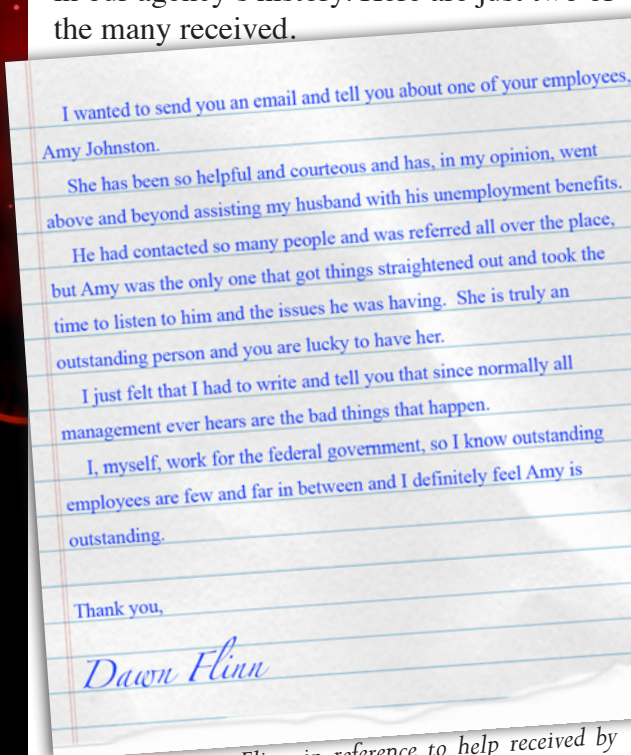
This year, there were 307 registered participants (up from 178 last year), 182 of those claimed veteran status (up from 101 last year). The participants made over 2,000 visits to providers seeking assistance. A total of 900 meals were served — 340 meals for breakfast and 560 meals for lunch.



Durham Disabled Veteran Outreach Program Specialist Kenneth Hargrove (right) assists a few of the Vets who attended the March Stand Down.

Thank You Letters Come Pouring In From Across N.C.

The ESC has been receiving thank you notes from customers during this unprecedented time in our agency's history. Here are just two of the many received.



Sent in by Dawn Flinn in reference to help received by Amy Johnston, acting supervisor in the Charlotte Remote Services Center.

Dear Mr. Beverly,

I would like to let you know what an outstanding help Ms. Taylor has been to me. For over a year she has helped me on and off again with issues or questions I have had concerning my unemployment benefits. I've never had questions after reading her replies, she is very clear about what is going on or is needed which to me is an outstanding attribute. You know she is sincere in helping you because she does not ask redundant questions or give you something to read on the NCESC site or please contact so and so for the help you need. I feel comfortable contacting her at anytime with my concerns because she never makes me feel I am putting her out.

I'm also impressed with her ability to quickly catch up with who I am and my history even after not hearing from me for several months and then help me with one email.

Sincerely I am impressed with Ms. Taylor and I was so lucky that she was the person who answered my first question so long ago. She is respectful, efficient and very prompt with her help. She is a true asset to our society.

Respectfully,

Sue Ramsey

Mrs. Sue Ramsey

Sent in by Sue Ramsey. Mrs. Ramsey emailed Region IV Manager Wayne Beverly to praise Henderson Office Manager Renee Taylor.



Region I

Forest City: Congratulations to **Stella Carroll**, Employment Consultant I, who has retired after 30 years of service.

Hickory/Newton: **Burl Robinson** has joined the ESC as an Employment Consultant I. **Linda Kerley** has been promoted from a Employment Consultant I to an Employment Consultant II.

Murphy: **Pamela Dickey** has been promoted from a Employment Consultant II to an Employment Security Manager I.

Shelby: **Janice Morton** has joined the ESC as an Employment Consultant I.

Waynesville: **Hazel Thompson** has joined the ESC as an Employment Consultant I.

Region II

North Wilkesboro: **Mack Davis** has been promoted from a Employment Consultant I to an Employment Consultant II.

Region III

Albemarle: Congratulations to **Lee Sanges**, Employment Security Manager I, who has retired after 40 years of service.

Charlotte: **Karen Hiott** has been promoted from a Employment Consultant I to an Veteran Employment Consultant II.

Concord: **Carol Moffitt** has been promoted from a Employment Consultant Supervisor II to an Employment Security Manager I.

Fayetteville: **Kagenia Strickland** has been promoted from a Employment Consultant I to a Tax Auditor.

Gastonia: **Carol Capps** has joined the ESC as an Employment Consultant I.

Lincolnton: **Patricia Robinson** has joined the ESC as an Employment Consultant I.

Mooreville: **Jack Stollery** has been promoted from a Employment Consultant II to an Employment Consultant Supervisor I.

Rockingham: **Jackie Haliburton** has been promoted from a Employment Consultant Supervisor I to an Employment Security Manager I.

Region IV

Central: Congratulations to the following employees hired at the Central Office: **Lynn Holmes**, Chairman; **Chiquita Douglas**, Social/Clinical Research Assistant in Labor Market Information; **Robert Gemma**, Personnel Analyst II in Finance & Administration/HR; **Brande Roberts**, Social/Clinical Research Specialist in Labor Market Information. Congratulations to the following employees on their recent promotions: **Billie Taylor**, Office Assistant III to Administrative Assistant II in RSC Support; **Gretchen Parker**, Processing Assistant IV to Processing Assistant V in Unemployment Insurance (Appeals); **Connie Fowler**, Processing Assistant III to Lead Worker III in Unemployment Insurance; **Becky Jefferys**, Office Assistant IV to Processing Assistant V in Finance & Administration/Human Resources; **Christian Martin**, Building & Environmental Technician to Processing Assistant III in Unemployment Insurance (Monetary Revision); **LaFonda General**, Employment Consultant I to Employment Consultant II in Employer Services (Applicant Services); **Priscilla Taylor**, Data Entry Operator II to Processing Assistant V in Unemployment Insurance (Special Programs). Congratulations to the following employees on their recent retirements: **Karin Gougeon**, Technology Support Technician, Information

See ITEMS (Continued on Page 8)



Systems, 8 years; **Patricia Willocks**, Processing Assistant V, Unemployment Insurance (Tax), 30 years.

Durham: Frederick Shaw has been promoted from a Employment Consultant II to an Employment Analyst.

Raleigh: Roberto Montalbano has joined the ESC as an Disabled Veteran Employment Consultant I. Best wishes to **Bruce Reavis**, Employment Consultant I, who has retired after 26 years of service.

Smithfield: Charles Underhill has been promoted from a Employment Security Manager I to an Employment Security Manager II.

Region V

Edenton: Tyler Bennett has joined the ESC as an Employment Consultant I.

Rocky Mount: Robert Sharpe has joined the ESC as an Agriculture Employment Consultant I.

Williamston: Elizabeth Williams has been promoted from a Employment Consultant I to an Employment Consultant II.

Region VI

Jacksonville: Reginald Roy has joined the ESC as a Veteran Employment Consultant.

Whiteville: Sufronia Thomas has been promoted from a Employment Consultant I to an Employment Consultant II.

Wilmington: Charles Davis has joined the ESC as a Tax Auditor. **Cheryl Morlote** has been promoted from a Employment Consultant I to an Employment Consultant II.

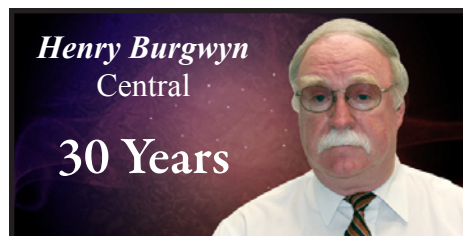
Service Awards

April

40 Years

Ruby Hodge — Central

30 Years



Dorothy Higgins — Morganton
Jeffrey Hockaday — Central

25 Years

Theodore Bullock — Central
Dena Conyers — Central
Laura Harris — Clinton
Carolyn Macon — Central
Eleanor Williams — Charlotte

20 Years

Andrew James — Central

15 Years

Chinita Arceneaux — Central
Fonda Crooker — Greensboro
Loiselle Hedgepath
— Hickory/Newton
Norma Mendez — Sanford



10 Years

William Byrd — Greenville
Tamara Cumbo — Ahoskie
Jason Eaker — Shelby
Robin Cobb-Kee — High Point
Leslie Kennedy — Central
Clifton Levi — Whiteville
Susie Minton — Charlotte
Francine Mitchell — Fayetteville
Yolanda Moore — Laurinburg

Larry Woods
Jacksonville

10 Years



Jack Stollery — Charlotte
Erving Strickland — Charlotte

5 Years

Alicia Baucom — Wadesboro
Alphonso Blyden — Fayetteville
Jazmin Boutaleb — Charlotte
Thomas Cameron — Durham
Jennifer Kinney — Lexington
Elizabeth Knight — Central
Cobey Lane — Reidsville
Glenda Menendez — Monroe
Sarah Stone — Raleigh
Bruce Suitt — Central
Alan Wagner — Lexington
Andria Washington — Central

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Service Awards

AWARDS (Continued from Page 8)

May

40 Years

Patricia Williams — Central

30 Years

John Austin — Charlotte

Terri Newton — High Point

Sharon Sigmon
— Hickory/Newton



25 Years



Joyce Putnam — Central

Eli Smith — Shallotte

20 Years

Neil Clark — Central



15 Years

Janis Davis — Central

10 Years

Geraldine Brady — Sanford

Rena Bridges — Central

Louis Burge — Jefferson

Jill Cleaveland — Murphy

Jennifer Polk — Clinton

Gillian Gordon — Raleigh

Lizabeth Gottermeyer

— Elizabeth City

Charliss Gwynn — Kenansville

Jennifer Jacobs — Asheville

Gladys King — Central

Taylor Lee — Greenville

Annie Lewis — Central

Alberta McGuire — Rocky Mount

Janet Pederson — Central

Ronald Phillips — Gastonia

Jennifer Polk — Clinton

Maria Santana Martinez

— Kinston

William Stanbaugh — Central

Sufronia Thomas — Whiteville

Stephanie Workman — Morganton

5 Years

Sharon Bagley — Central

William Gavilan — Raleigh

Nelse Grundvig — Central

Kenneth Hargrove — Durham

Leon Jackson — Sanford

Patricia Matthews — Central

Thomas Perlungher — Central

Erwin Reich — Raleigh

Camilla Sanders — Central

Kathleen Sinclair — Asheville

June

40 Years

Jerry Pickett — Central

35 Years

Phyllis Leach — Central

30 Years



Caroline Cook — Central

Tanya Grey — Winston-Salem

25 Years

Andrea Deloatch — Central

Sandra Johns — Raleigh

Wade Lafavers — Central

20 Years

Lionel Whitney — Jacksonville

15 Years

Johnny Clontz — Charlotte

Cynthina Eide — Central

Beverly Thomas-Richardson
— Central

10 Years

Suzanna Andrew — Statesville

Jacqueline Bostic — Salisbury

Timothy Byerly — Lexington

Melissa Lyles — Forest City

Sharon Rogers — Central

Jeff Smith — Central

Michael Tanner — Lenoir

Arlene Thorne — Laurinburg

5 Years

Edward Anderson — Central

Timothy Aylor — Central

Rita Maes — Central

April Newman — Hendersonville

Tasha Revell — Central

Senika Rush — Burlington

Frederick Shaw — Durham

Paul Taylor — Cary

Blast From The Past



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